

Using Probate Records in Your Family History Research

Melanie McComb
Senior Genealogist

November 2023

THE BRUE FAMILY LEARNING CENTER



American Ancestors[®]
by NEW ENGLAND HISTORIC GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY



Probate Terminology

What is a Probate Record?

- Court process that disposes of a deceased person's estate
- Describes how an estate will be distributed
- Names who will administer the estate
- Contains a list of property/possessions owned by the deceased

Why Use Probate Records?

- Provide an approximate death date for the deceased
- Verify family relationships
 - Married daughters may be listed with their husband's surname
- Wills and inventories offer a glimpse into the personal belongings of an ancestor and how they were distributed
- Context of an ancestor's life

Challenges of Probate Records

- Not everyone left a probate record (i.e. women)
- Deceased may have had multiple marriages
- Not all children are listed
- No uniformity
- Difficult to read

Common Terms

- **Testate:** dies with a Last Will & Testament.
- **Intestate / Administration:** dies without a will.
- **File Papers:** the original documents associated with the probate file.
- **Record Books / Copy Books:** copies of certain probate files copied into bound record volumes.

Documents Found in Probate Records

- Will
- Codicil
- Letters of Administration & Letters of Testamentary
- Inventory
- Accounts
- Distributions
- Guardianship Records
- Miscellaneous Probate Papers (examples below):
 - Dower Records
 - Bill of Sales
 - Receipts

Testate vs. Intestate

Testate

- Will
- Codicil
- Letters of testamentary
- Inventory

Intestate

- Letters of Administration
- Inventory
- Guardianships
- Distributions

Wills and Codicils

Wills

- A legal document written by the deceased
- Indicates how the deceased wants his or her estate distributed

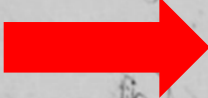
Wills Cont'd

- Wills can include the following:
 - Names of children (and their spouses)
 - Name of spouse
 - Names of grandchildren, nieces/nephews
 - Names of servants
 - Names of enslaved individuals

In the Name of God. Amen. The seventeenth Day of April: 1741
I Phillip Rich of Sudbury In the County of Middlesex: yeoman:
Being sick and weak in Body but of perfect Mind and memory Thanks be
Given unto God: Therefore calling unto mind the Mortality of my Body
and knowing that it is appointed for all men Once to Die Do make and ordain
This my Last will and Testament that is to say Principally and first of all
I Give and Recommend my soul into the hands of God that gave it: and my
Body I Recommend to the Earth to be Buried in Decent Christian Burial at
the Discretion of my Executors nothing Doubting but at the General
Resurrection I shall receive the same again by the mighty power of
God: And as touching such worldly Estate where with it hath pleased God
To Bless me in this Life I Give Demise and Dispose of the same in
the following manner and Form
Imprimis After my Just Debts and funeral Charges paid
I Give and bequeath to Johannah Rich my Dearly Beloved wife the Use
and Improvement of all my Estate Both Real and Personal that I have in
Sudbury During her natural Life and If the improvement that is
to say the income of my Estate shall be found insufficient for her
Comfortable maintenance: Then my will is that I give full power to
my here after named Executors with my wifes Consent to sell all
my Estate: and If the Income of the money Let. out. For interest
shall be found insufficient for her maintenance then my Executor
to make Use of so much of the Principal as he shall think fit

Codicils

- An addition or change to a will
- Common changes:
 - Add or remove heirs
 - Change distribution of estates
 - Acknowledge deaths of heirs in will
 - Administrators of estate



But Having Casually Omitted sundry things in my said Will
Do make this Codicil thereto as fully Explanatory thereof and
with some Alterations and Additions to the same, First my mind
and will is That M^r. Michael Trolett of Boston Merchant, and
Henry Newman of Boston Shopkeeper Do accept the office
of Executors of my said Will & this Codicil so far as relates to or
concerns my Estate in New-England and do accordingly Appoint
them my Executors - Item I Desire of my said Executors
that my Daughter Louisa Grnelia now in Boston
be sent to Utrecht in the Province of Holland to my Brother
Phillip Meinertzhagen, I request their Particular Care that
she be sent over in a good Season of the Year, Item I
Do hereby make free from Slavery my Indian Boy called
Gluk and give him his Liberty, Item Do allow & give
unto the said Indian Boy the Sum of Twenty pounds -

Codicil, Anthony Henry Meinertzhagen,
Suffolk County, Mass, Case #10998

Why isn't someone mentioned in a will?

- Deceased
- Moved away
- Already received their inheritance
- Not yet born/considered a minor when the will was written
- Estrangement

Letters of Testamentary and Administration

Letters of Testamentary

- Issued by the court
- Exists if a person left a will
- Allows the executor to take control of the deceased's estate and distribute it according to the will

Province of the
Massachusetts-Bay, } Middlesex, fs.

AT a Court of Probate holden by the Honorable Jonathan
Remington Esq; Judge of Probate of Wills, &c. with-
in and for the County of Middlesex, on the twentyeth
Day of July — A. D. 1741.

THE Instrument hereunto annexed (purporting the last Will
and Testament of Phillip Rich — late of Sudbury
in the same County, Yeoman deceased) was presented for
Probate: Then present the
Witnesses thereto subscribed, who made Oath that they saw the
said Testator Sign, Seal, and heard him declare the said In-
strument to be his last Will and Testament, and that they

subscribed their Names together as Witnesses to the Execution
thereof, in the Presence of the said Testator, and that
he was then (to the best of their Judgment) of sound and
disposing Mind:

And the said Instrument is by the said Judge proved, approved and
allowed as the last Will and Testament of the said deceased, and
Administration thereof in all Matters the same concerning, and of
his Estate, is committed unto the Rev. Mr. Wm. Cook —
the Executor therein named, faithfully to execute the said Will,
and to administer the said Estate according thereunto; who accepted
of his said Trust; and was directed to exhibit an
Inventory of the said deceased's Estate —
and he shall render a full and true Account of his said
Administration, when thereunto required.

By Order of the said Judge,

J. Danforth — Regr.

Letters of Administration

- Issued if an individual died intestate
- The court appoints an administrator/trix
 - Distributes the estate of the deceased
 - If the deceased is married,
typically the widow/widower
- After the Civil War, the names of the living heirs are named

KNOW all Men by these Presents, That We
*Sarah Knight Widow Nathaniel Wheeler & George
& Samuel Hale Fishermen all of Newbury
in the County of Essex*

within His Majesty's Province of the *Massachusetts-Bay* in *New-England*, are
holden and stand firmly bound and obliged unto *John Choate Esq*
Judge of Probate of Wills, and granting Administrations within the County
of *Essex* in the full and just Sum of *One thousand*
Pounds, in Lawful Money of the Province of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, to be
paid unto the said *John Choate* or his Successors in the
said Office, or Assigns: To the true Payment whereof, we bind our selves,
and each of us, our, and each of our Heirs, Executors and Administrators,
jointly and severally for the whole and in the whole firmly by these Presents.
Sealed with our Seals. Dated the *Fifth* Day of *May*
Anno Domini, One Thousand Seven Hundred and *Sixty*
Annoque Regni Regis

THE Condition of this present Obligation is such,
That if the above-bounded *Sarah Knight* *Admin* of all
*Singular Goods Chattel, rights & credits of her husband Joseph
Knight* *Esq* of *Newbury* *deceased* *Intestate*
do make or cause to be made a true and perfect Inventory of all and singular the
Goods, Chattels, Rights and Credits of the said Deceased, which have or shall
come to the Hands, Possession or Knowledge of *her* the said *Sarah*
or into the Hands and Possession of any other Person or Persons for *her*
and the same so made, do exhibit or cause to be exhibited into the Registry of the
Court of Probate for the said County of *Essex* at or before the *first* *Monday*
Day of *July* next ensuing; and the same Goods, Chattels, Rights and
Credits, and all other the Goods, Chattels, Rights and Credits of the said Deceased,
at the Time of *his* Death which at any Time after shall come to the Hands and
Possession of the said *Sarah* or into the Hands and Possession of
any other Person or Persons for *her* do well and truly Administer according to
Law: And further do make

To Samuel Hollen Esq: Judge of Probate for the County of Essex.

Sir I hereby certify your Hon^r that I refuse to take Administration of the Estate of my late Husband Joseph Knight of Ipswich Merchant, & pray that your Hon^r would grant the same to Capt. Abraham Wheelwright of Newburypt & as in duty bound shall ever pray
Ipswich Nov^r 28th 1798.

Betsy Knight

The subscriber Father-in-law to s^d Deceased,
do signify to your Hon^r his acquiescing in y^e above prayer.
Rowley 28 Nov. 1798

Nath^l Cogswell

[Minors must be so designated. If any party is a married woman, her husband's name must be given. Next of kin may be determined by reference to Chapters 91 and 94 of the General Statutes.]

To the Honorable the Judge of the Probate Court in and for the County of Middlesex:

RESPECTFULLY represents *Jessie M. Royal*
of *Lowell* in the County of *Middlesex* that
Lowell *Peter H. Royal* who last dwelt in
day of *February* in said County of Middlesex, died on the *twentieth*
in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and sixty-*eight*
intestate, possessed of goods and estate remaining to be adminis-
tered, leaving *a* widow, whose name is *Jessie M. as aforesaid*
and as *his* only next of kin the persons whose names, residence, and relationship to the deceased are
as follows, viz.: —

<i>Otis Royal</i>	<i>North Stratford N. H.</i>	<i>of age</i>
<i>William Royal</i>	<i>Mechanic Falls Me</i>	<i>"</i>
<i>Louisa Mann</i>	<i>of said Me</i>	<i>"</i>
<i>Esther M. Royal</i>	<i>Portland</i>	<i>"</i>
<i>Louise E. Hodgkin</i>	<i>Portland</i>	<i>"</i>
<i>Susan Royal</i>	<i>Mechanic Falls Me</i>	<i>"</i>

That your petitioner is *his widow and desires to administer his estate*

Wherefore your petitioner prays that *she* may be appointed Administrat^{rix} of the estate of said

Inventory

What is an Inventory?

- Appraisal of deceased's real estate and personal property
- Provides a value for the estate
- Can provide clues about the lives of your ancestors

What can an inventory tell us?

- How much land/property an ancestor owned
- Job/trade
- Education level
- Level of wealth/status
- The number and names of enslaved persons

The Inventory of the Estate of Joseph Coman
 Late of Providence Deceased
 who Departed this Life June 22: 1751
 To Having appreal - at --- 22- 0:0
 To Silver - --- 5- 5:0
 to a piece of humppon Broad Cloth --- 20- 10:0
 to a piece humppon Camblett --- 21- 7- 0
 to 2 feather beds and furniture at --- 20- 0:0
 to one flock bed and furniture --- 15- 0:0
 to Outer --- 20- 18- 0
 to 2 iron pots and 3 iron Kittles 2 trawils.
 two warming pans 2 frying pans
 and 2 Shillets tong, Spice & Gridiron at 24- 5:0
 to Table Linning and Napkins --- 6- 5:0
 to one Gun Bullet mold, and powder ^{horn} --- 4- 10:0
 to Glass Bottles and vials --- 1- 15:0

Inventory of the Estate of Joseph Coman,
 Providence, Rhode Island, 1751, Film #007650467

One broken plough, one set one Iron Harrow		
one Log Chain four axes & four Hoes	35	44
One Yoke of Oxen	28	44
One Negro named Captain, Infirm	50	44
One Do named old Cook	60	44
One Do named Sauto Same 80 years old	50	44
One Negro Girl 6 years of age	60	44
Tract of Unimproved Land at Hadley,		
South Precinct containing about 900 Acres		900
Lands Bought of Th: Westbrook in the County of York		200
Lands Bought of Henry Gibbs in the County of Do		1000

Inventory of Isaac Royall, Case 19545, 1752, Middlesex County Probate File Papers, AmericanAncestors.org

[eI

Note the persons who are taking the inventory. They may be family or close friends/business partners.

Ruth Waterboy Admin^{tr} of the Estate of her Brother
David Waterboy late of Boston Cordwainer deceased
exhibites the above written and made Oath that it
contains a just and true Inventory of the State of the Deced^t
So far as hath come to her knowledge And that if more
hereafter appears she will cause it to be added
Boston May 14th 1698. Jurat Cor
W^m Houghton

[eI

Review the inventory for any
real estate holdings and
then look for the
corresponding land deeds.

Real Estate

1/3 of the Dwelling House & House Lot, with a small Barn thereon	\$250.00
1/2 Acres of Meadow, adjoining the House Lot on the East side	150.00
3 Acres in the Orchard South of the Meadow	150.00
10 Acres & 106 rods of land lying south of Mr Bradleys	} 639.75
— Sand & North of Issiah M Reeds land, including a lane	
26 Acres of land lying towards the north end of the the old Capt Everts Farm Part Wood	650.00
Amount of Real Estate	\$1839.75

Personal Estate

1 Table 75 — 1 Look Glass 50 — 1 Chest drawers 75	\$200.00
1 Cherry stand 17 — 1 do 75 — 1 old clock 50	142
2 Splint bottom chairs 25 — 1 Good Rock chair 75 — 1 Buckle Arm do 20	1.20
1 Hagg do do 20 — 2 Wood bottom do 50 — 6 fancy cane do @ 3.00	3.70
1 Bedstead & board fl. — 1 do high Post 2. — 1 Cherry Bureau 2.50	5.50
1 Blue Chest fl. — 1 Wood colored do 60 — 1 blue do do 20	1.70
1 Box in Genet 6. — 1 Hair Bk & Dots 30. — 2 Spit Boxes 6	.42
1 Large Spin Wheel 40 — 1 Small do 6 — 2 Splint work Baskets 6	52
1 Small trunk 6 — 1 Small Pork tub 50	56
1 Butter tub 37 — 1 Lidder Hoaghead 25 — 1 Lidder Bk 25	87
1 Small welsch tub 25. — 1 Cook Stove & furnitures	5.25
1 Large wood bowl 20 — 1 do 17 — 1 Small do 20	57
2 Small do do 12. 2 do 6 — 1 Butter Ladle 6	24

Accounts

Accounts

- List of debts owed to the estate
- List of debts the estate owes to others
- Notices published in newspapers to collect on any remaining debts

Why look at accounts?

- Hint at status of ancestor
 - Do they owe a lot of money?
 - Are they lending money frequently?
 - Do the debts add up to more than the value of the estate?
- Potential family and associate connections
 - Extended family
 - Business associates

Suffolk. The Account of Abigail Draper Admin^r
 of all & singular the Goods, Chattels, Rights & Credits
 of her husband James Draper late of Roxbury
 in y^e County afores. Husbandman deceased Intestate -
 The ^r Account^t Chargeth her self wth all
 & singular the Goods & Chattels of y^e deceased -
 specified in an Ino^r of y^e thereof by her Exhibited
 into the Registry of Probate. Amounting to - £ 8⁶ 6⁶
 W. Housing & Land - £ 114¹¹ -
 W. Rec^d in small Debts due to y^e deceased - £ 21¹⁷ -
 Rec^d Cash for Mills sold by y^e deceased - £ 37¹⁸ 8⁸
 £ 118² 2²

Account, Estate of James Draper, Case #2456, Suffolk County, MA Probate File Papers, AmericanAncestors.org

And pray's Allowance as follows. Vizt.

P. for Lett. of Admin. & Reg. & Inventory.	£	10	0	0
P. sickness & funeral Charges of y ^e Deceas'd	"	7	16	6
P. To several y ^e Sons as by Receipts doth appear is was due from y ^e Deceas'd Amourting in y ^e whole to	£	59	7	6
P. to fam ^r . Carl of Boston a Debt	"	3	3	6
P. J. Barle for repairing y ^e Deceas'ds Windows	"	5	12	"
Loss in Clotting of y ^e Deceas'ds Linnen & woollen being worn out, appriz'd at	£	13	5	"
Wooden ware appriz'd at 1:13/ being worn out	"	1	13	"
Cart & Tackling worn out	"	1	"	"
Paid to Samuel Gerd for his Wife's Portion	£	25	"	"
	£	119	2	6
For Admin ^r time & Trouble	"	3	"	"
For Drawing Allowings & Reg. & this Acct. f.	"	8	"	"
	£	122	10	6

mark

Nath. Draper eldest son of y^e Deceas'd being present at y^e Allowance of y^e Debts
Wth to Nath. Draper

Estate Distribution

Distributions

- Dividing an estate among heirs
- Occurs after bills are paid and debts collected
- Heirs (children, widow, etc.) mentioned in distribution
- Genealogical importance:
 - List of children if vital records aren't available
 - Married names of daughters
 - Children of deceased heirs

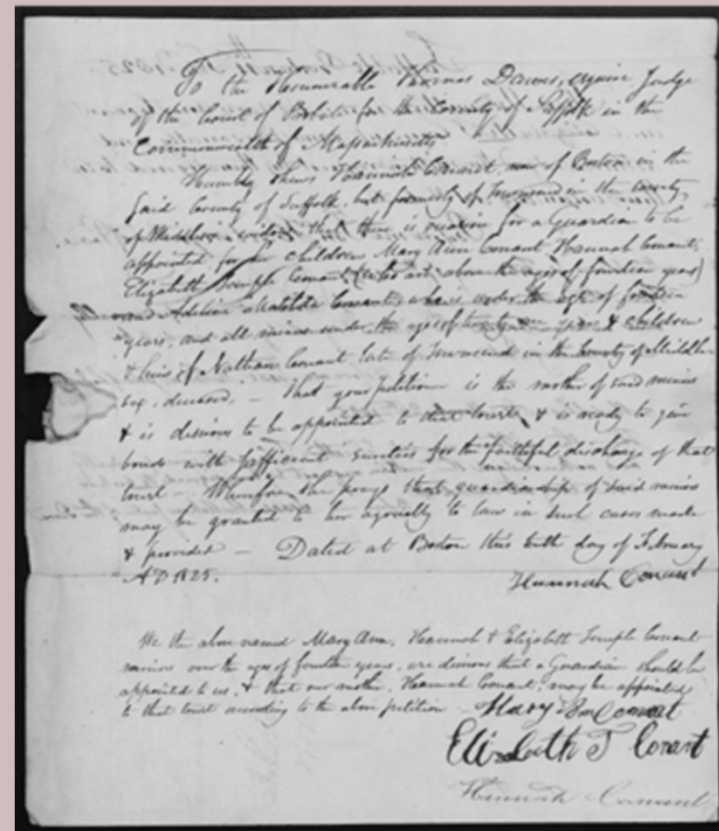
of Ipswich in said county, merchant, deceased, widow,
Whereas by your account of administration of said estate, this day settled and
allowed, it appears that there is now remaining in your hands the sum of four
hundred ninety one dollars seventy seven cents and a half, being the balance
of said account, to be distributed among the heirs of said intestate, agreeably to
law: You are therefore hereby ordered and directed to pay and distribute
formerly Charabette Knight, who was the widow of said intestate, the sum of one hundred sixty three dollars
ninety two cents, as her distributive share of said balance, and to
the said sum, as follows, viz. to Charabette Young, Henry C. Knight,
Frederick Knight and Antonio Knight, children of said intestate, each
the sum of one hundred ~~twenty~~ ^{nine} dollars ~~eight~~ ^{eight} cents, as their
distributive shares of said balance, taking their receipts for the same;
all to be still held, so far as their said shares will extend, to pay their ratable
parts of what further debts and charges shall hereafter arise against said

Order Distribution, Joseph Knight
estate, Essex County, Mass, Case #16001

Guardianships

Guardianships

- Appointed for minor children
 - Males: under 21
 - Females: under 18
- Guardians protected the inheritance of minor heirs to an estate
 - Can provide financial support
- After minor becomes of age, the guardian is released
 - Guardian would then make an account of compensation



To the Honourable *Thomas Daves* Esquire,
Judge of the Court of Probate for the County of Suffolk, in the Com-
monwealth of Massachusetts,

HUMBLY shews, *Hannah Conant* — of
Boston
in said County *Suffolk*, widow that there is occasion for a Guardjan
to be appointed for *Mary Ann Conant*, *Hannah*
Conant, *Elizabeth Temple Conant*, who are
~~near~~ *about* the age of *fourteen* years and *Adeline*
Megilda Conant, who is under the age of
fourteen years
minor and children of *Nathan Conant*
formerly of *Townsend* in the County of *Middlesex*
deceased,

Guardian Bond, Suffolk
County, Mass., Case #27577

We the above named Mary Ann, Hannah & Elizabeth Temple Conant
minors over the age of fourteen years, are desirous that a Guardian should be
appointed to us, & that our mother, Hannah Conant, may be appointed
to that trust according to the above petition -

Mary Ann Conant
Elizabeth T Conant

Hannah Conant

Guardian Petition, Suffolk County, Mass.
Case #27575

The Account of Nathaniel Weston of Boston Mariner Guardian to Sarah Griggs — Daughter of Isaac Griggs late of Boston aforesaid in the County of Suffolk Lord wainor decess. as well of and for such and so much Estate as hath come to his hands by virtue of the sd Guardianship & of the profits & Improvement made with the same as of & for his payments and disbursements thereof for and towards the education & maintainance of the said Sarah &c.

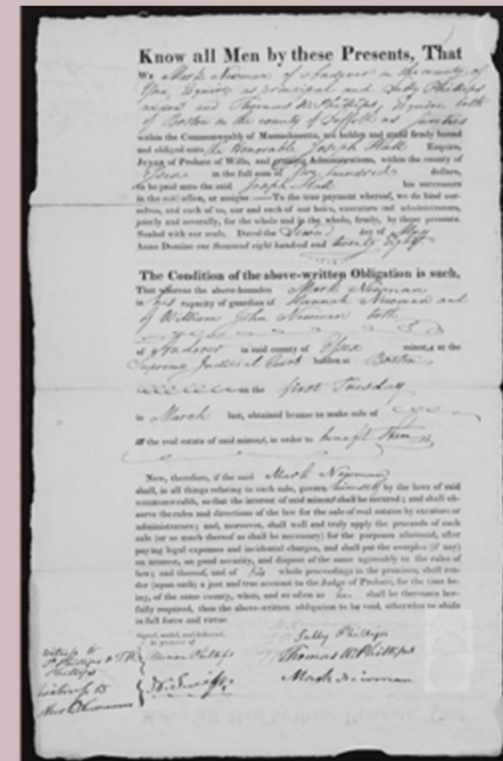
The sd Accountant chargeth himselfe with several Sums of money by him recd. as followeth vizt

1698.	With money recd. of Wm Griggs Admin ^r of the Estate of the sd Isaac Griggs - - -	£ 100 ¹¹ - -
	more money recd. of sd Griggs - - -	" 8 ¹¹ 2 ¹¹ 6
Pr	With a Bond of James Russell Esq ^r for - - -	" 60 ¹¹ - -
Pr	With one year Interest of sd Bond - - -	" 3 ¹¹ 12 ¹¹ - -
1699	Pr With more money recd. of Wm Griggs - - -	" 6 ¹¹ 7 ¹¹ - -
Pr	With Interest recd. for £ 150 ¹¹ - - -	" - - -

Miscellaneous Probate Papers

Bill of Sale

- Property may have to be sold in order to pay debts.
- Sold at public auction
- Approved by the probate court
- May include enslaved persons



The Condition of the above-written Obligation is such,

That whereas the above-bounden
in *his* capacity of guardian of

Mark Newman
Hannah Newman and
William John Newman both

of Andover in said county of *Essex* minors, at the
Supreme Judicial Court holden at *Boston*

do hereby on the *first Tuesday*

in *March* last, obtained license to make sale of *cert*

~~of~~ the real estate of said minors, in order to *benefit them*

Bill of sale, Newman Family, Suffolk
County, Mass, Case #28648

[eI

You can find lists of enslaved persons sold to others in bills of sale. These may be found in probate records or land deeds.

Tebbs of
to Matson
Bill of Sale

Know all men by these presents that I William Tebbs of Prince William County for and in consideration of one hundred and sixty pounds to me in hand paid by James Matson of the Said County the Receipt whereof I do Acknowledge have bargained and sold and by the presents bargain sell & Deliver to the Said Matson One Negro Man Slave Henry & one Negro Woman Slave Milley to have and to hold the aforesaid Slaves to him the Said Matson and his heirs for ever. And I oblige myself my heirs &c. to warrant and for ever defend the said Slaves ~~from~~ to the Said Matson his heirs &c. from the Claim or Claims of any person or persons whatsoever as ~~well~~ witness my hand this fourteenth Day

Day of December thousand seven hundred and eighty two 393.
Test Thomas Chapman
Wm Tebbs.
Robert Overall
At a Court held for Prince William County the 2nd Day of June 1782.
This Bill of Sale from William Tebbs gent. to James Matson was acknowledged by the Said Tebbs and admitted to Record.
Test Robert Graham Clerk.

Bill of Sale between William Tebbs and James Matson,
1782, Prince William, Virginia, FHL Film #007897263

Dower Records

- A dower is the right of a widow to her deceased husband's land and property
- In most U.S. states widows had a right of one-third share of deceased's husband's property
- Widows have right to refuse their inheritance given to them in a will in favor of their dower right

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Plymouth ss.

To Theophilus Kins, Joseph E. Smith & Benjamin
Dexter all of Rochester in said County
three discreet and disinterested persons within said Commonwealth,
GREETING.

WHEREAS at a Court of Probate holden at *Rochester*
in and for the county of Plymouth, on the *fifth* *Monday* day of *November* 18*44*
it was made to appear, that *Abigail Turner* widow of
Nallet Turner late of *Rochester*
in said county, deceased, was dowable in the lands whereof he died seized,
and it was decreed by the Judge of said Court that her dower therein be assigned to her
accordingly:—You are therefore authorized and empowered, being under oath, and having
given due notice to all persons interested therein, to set off to the said *Abigail*
Turner the widow of said deceased, by metes and bounds, her dower
or third part of all the real estate, of which the said *Nallet Turner*
died seized in this Commonwealth, provided that it can be done without damage to the whole
estate;

Receipts

- Record of the administrator collecting or paying debts
- Record that the estate has been distributed

Locating Probate Records

Where to find United States Probate Records?

- Filed at Courthouses
- Usually found on the county level
- Exceptions to this:
 - Rhode Island: town level
 - Vermont and Connecticut: Probate Districts
 - New York: Early probate records for the state sometimes filed in Albany County
 - Louisiana: Filed in the parish (ex. Orleans Parish)

**Identifying when a
County/Town/
Probate District was
Formed**

Research Wiki

- Wiki Home
- About the Wiki
- Online Genealogy Records
- Guided Research
- Research Resources
- Wiki Policies

Centers/Libraries

- Family History Library
- Family History Centers
- FS Affiliate Libraries

Give Feedback

- Submit Wiki Content
- Report a Problem

Edit the Wiki

- Become an Editor
- Upload File/Image
- Personal Sandbox
- Wiki Projects
- Wiki University

Tools

- What links here
- Related changes
- Special pages
- Printable version
- Permanent link
- Page information
- Cite this page
- Browse properties

Page Talk

Read View source View history

Search by place or topic

Somerset County, Maine Genealogy

United States → Maine → Somerset County

Guide to **Somerset County, Maine ancestry, family history, and genealogy** birth records, marriage records, death records, census records, family history, and military records.

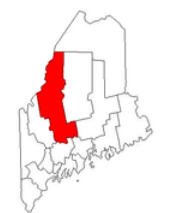
Maine Online Genealogy Records

Contents [hide]

- Description
- Somerset County, Maine Record Dates
- County Courthouse
- History
 - Parent County
 - Boundary Changes
 - Record Loss
- Places / Localities
 - Neighboring Counties
 - Populated Places
- Resources
 - Cemeteries
 - Census Records
 - Church
 - Court
 - Emigration and Immigration
 - Gazetteers
 - Land
 - Local Histories
 - Maps

Somerset County, Maine

Map



Location in the state of Maine, United States Genealogy

Facts

Founded	March 1, 1809
County Seat	Skowhegan





FamilySearch Catalog

Search the catalog of genealogical materials (including books, online materials, microfilm, microfiche, and publications) made available by FamilySearch online and in libraries and centers worldwide.

[Learn more about the catalog and how to access materials.](#)

Search by:

[Place](#) | [Surnames](#) | [Titles](#) | [Author](#) | [Subjects](#) | [Keywords](#)

Place

United States, Maine, Somerset

Search for:

[Call Number](#) | [Film/Fiche Number](#)

Availability

- Any
- Online
- Family History Center

Search

Reset

Refine your search ▾

Search by:

Place

United States, Maine, Somer

Surnames

Titles

Author

Subjects

Keywords

Search for:

Call Number

Film/Fiche Number

Availability

Any

Online

Family History Center

Update

Reset

Search Results for FamilySearch Catalog

PRINT **Catalog Print List (0)**

Notes

Somerset County was created in 1809 from Kennebec County.

Part of [United States, Maine](#)

[Places within United States, Maine, Somerset](#) ▶

- ▶ [United States, Maine, Somerset - Biography](#) (1)
- ▶ [United States, Maine, Somerset - Church records](#) (1)
- ▶ [United States, Maine, Somerset - Court records](#) (6)
- ▶ [United States, Maine, Somerset - Directories](#) (2)
- ▶ [United States, Maine, Somerset - Genealogy](#) (1)
- ▶ [United States, Maine, Somerset - Guardianship - Indexes](#) (1)
- ▶ [United States, Maine, Somerset - History](#) (7)
- ▶ [United States, Maine, Somerset - History - Indexes](#) (1)
- ▶ [United States, Maine, Somerset - Land and property](#) (2)
- ▶ [United States, Maine, Somerset - Land and property - Maps](#) (1)
- ▶ [United States, Maine, Somerset - Maps](#) (3)
- ▶ [United States, Maine, Somerset - Probate records](#) (3)
- ▶ [United States, Maine, Somerset - Probate records - Indexes](#) (1)
- ▶ [United States, Maine, Somerset - Vital records](#) (1)
- ▶ [United States, Maine, Somerset - Vital records - Indexes](#) (1)



Probate Indexes

Probate Index Options

- Card Index
- Index within volume
- Published Index
- Website with images
- Online index
- Not Indexed?



Administr. ^s Guard. ^s	Intestates, Minors &c.
Heath Isaac 2 ^d 19. 92.	Heath Abraham ^m 19. 92.
Horn Fred. 416.	Schwartz Elisab. et al 416.
Houghton Levi 418.	Sprague Creth. a. 418.
Hoyden John 428. 559.	Dutton Soph. et al 428. 559.
Herman John 432.	Herman Jane et al 432.
Hayward Thomas 2.	Hayward. etis 2. —
Hodge Henry 51. 46.	Hodge Sally 51. 46.
Hayward Josh. 20.	Farnsworth Wm. et al 20.
Hall Reuben 80.	Parsons Lawrence jr 80.
Hall Ezekiel 105.	Hall William 105.
Hason Israel 594. 467.	Smith Hans. et al 594. 467.
Hunt Ebenezer 100.	Olive David 100. > 1
Hill Deborah 131. 182.	Hill Philip 131. 182.
Hill John 473.	Hill Maney et al 473.
Hale Sus. A. 142.	Hale Parker 142.
Hinkley Lydia 159. 208.	Hinkley Ezekiel 159. 208.
Hinkley Aaron 134.	Blake Jacob 134.
Hussey Mary 169.	Curtis Charles 169.

[eI

Remember to check Probate
Record Books when the file
papers are listed as "missing."

Finding Probate Records on AmericanAncestors.org

Research towns throughout New England and New York

Town guides will help you in identifying research strategies for towns throughout New England and New York. They includes information on name changes for towns, settlement and incorporation dates, parent towns or counties and much more. Villages, smaller sections of towns, are not included in these guides.

RESEARCH GUIDE



RESEARCH GUIDE



Connecticut Town Guide

A

B

C

D

E

F

G

The vital records of most Connecticut towns to 1870 are contained in [Connecticut Vital Records to 1870 \(The Barbour Collection\)](#).

For more information on Connecticut towns and their records, see:

Melnyk, Marcia D. *Genealogist's Handbook for New England Research*, 4th ed., Boston: NEHGS, 1999.

Morrison, Betty Jean. *Connecting To Connecticut*, East Hartford: Connecticut Society of Genealogists, 1995. Kemp, Thomas Jay. *Connecticut Researcher's Handbook*, Detroit: Gale Research Co., 1981.

Search

Events

Membership

Give

Publications

Expert Help

Tools

Signature Projects

Centers & Initiatives

Name	Established	County	Parent Town(s)	Other Names	Related Databases
Canaan	1739	Litchfield			
Canada Parish					Hampton
Canterbury	1703	Windham	Plainfield		Canterbury, CT: Catalogue of the First Congregational
Canton	1806	Hartford	Simsbury		West Simsbury [Now Canton], CT: Early Settlers, 1780 Connecticut: Records of the Particular Court of the C
Chaplin	1822	Windham	Hampton, Mansfield, and Windham		Mansfield, CT: Vital Records, 1700-1850 Windham, CT: Congregational Church Records, 1700-
Chatham					E. Hampton
Cheshire	1780	New Haven	Wallingford		
Chester	1836	New Haven	Saybrook		Saybrook, CT: Vital Records, 1647-1834
Clinton	1838	Middlesex	Killingworth		
Colchester	1698	New London			
Colebrook	1779	Litchfield			



AmericanAncestors.org

Connecticut Probate Records on AmericanAncestors.org

- Early Probate Records, 1635-1750
- Records of the Particular Court of the Colony of CT, 1687-1688
- Fairfield County, 1704-1757
- Index of Hartford County Court Minutes, Vols. 3-4, 1663-1687

Maine Probate Records on AmericanAncestors.org

- Early Wills and Deeds, 1640-1760

Massachusetts Probate Records on [AmericanAncestors.org](https://www.AmericanAncestors.org)

- Barnstable County, MA Probate Records, 1685-1789
- Berkshire County, MA Probate File Papers, 1761-1917
- Bristol County, MA Probate File Papers, 1686-1880
- Essex County, MA Early Probate Records, 1635-1681
- Essex County, MA Probate File Papers, 1638-1881
- Franklin County, MA Probate File Papers, 1812-1915
- Hampshire County, MA Probate File Papers, 1660-1889
- Middlesex County, MA Probate File Papers, 1648-1871
- Norfolk County, MA Index to Probate Records, 1793-1900

Massachusetts Probate Records on [AmericanAncestors.org](https://www.AmericanAncestors.org)

- Norfolk County, MA Probate File Papers, 1793-1900
- Plymouth County, MA Probate File Papers 1686-1881
- Suffolk County, MA Index to Probate Records, 1636-1893
- Suffolk County, MA Probate File Papers, 1630-1841*
*Eventually will include up to 1893
- Worcester County, MA Index to Probate Records, 1731-1881
- Worcester County, MA Probate File Papers, 1731-1881

Rhode Island Probate Records on AmericanAncestors.org

- Providence, RI: Index to Probate, 1646-1899

AmericanAncestors.org Databases with Probate Abstracts

- Fairfield, CT: Families of Old Fairfield
- *Genealogical Advertiser*
- *New England Historical and Genealogical Register*
- Portsmouth, NH: Abstracts from Newspapers, 1776-1800
- *Vermont Genealogy* (1996-2014)
- New York: Abstracts of New York County Wills, 1662-1801)
- New York: Abstracts of Wills, Admins. And Guardianships, 1787-1835

Search by database name

probate



39 databases [Reset filters](#)

DATABASE ▾

- all databases
- only databases with images
- only my favorite databases
- only free databases

LOCATION ▾

United States (37)

DATE ▾

- Pre 1700 (20)
- 1700 - 1750 (3)
- 1750 - 1800 (6)
- 1800 - 1850 (1)
- 1850 - 1900 (1)
- 1900 - 1950 (4)
- 1950 - Present (0)

CATEGORIES ▾

Court, Land and Probate Records

Results per page 20 50 100

Q	📷	☆	Connecticut: Early Probate Records, 1635-1750
Q	📄	☆	Providence, RI: Index to Probate, 1646-1899
Q	📷	☆	Franklin County, MA: Probate File Papers, 1812-1915
Q	📷	☆	Norfolk County, MA: Index to Probate records, 1793-1900
Q	📷	☆	Berkshire County, MA: Probate File Papers, 1761-1917
Q	📷	☆	Barnstable, MA: Probate Records, 1685-1789
Q	📷	☆	Norfolk County, MA: Probate File Papers, 1793-1900
Q	📷	☆	Suffolk County, MA: Probate File Papers
Q	📷	☆	Essex County, MA: Probate File Papers, 1638-1881
Q	📷	☆	Plymouth County, MA: Probate File Papers, 1686-1881
Q	📷	☆	Worcester County, MA: Probate File Papers, 1731-1881
Q	📷	☆	Bristol County, MA: Probate File Papers, 1686-1880
Q	📷	☆	Middlesex County, MA: Probate File Papers, 1648-1871
Q	📄	☆	Fairfield County, CT: Probate Records, 1704-1757

Search Database


★ Favorite

Saved Searches

Saved Searches 

 **Berkshire County, MA: Probate File Papers, 1761-1917**

Exact Search Soundex

 SEARCH

First Name

Last Name

First/Middle/[Maiden] names

Last Name

Years

Location Exact Location

From

To

e.g. Boston, Massachusetts

Volume

Page

Case Number

Browse


See other databases in this category

Comment or Question

Write a comment

Switch to Advanced Search



By default all results are a best fit to your criteria

 SEARCH

Reset Search

Search Results

1 - 1 of 1 records for Name: Abraham Osborne (exact), Database: Berkshire County, MA: Probate File Papers, 1761-1917

 Refine  New Search

SEARCH FILTERS ▾

Abraham Osborne

SORT BY

Relevance ▾


CATEGORIES ▾

Court, Land and Probate Records (1)

Comment or Question

Results per page **20** 50 100

 Print

 Save Search

Name	Events	Relationship
<p>Abraham C. OSBORNE </p> <p>Berkshire County, MA: Probate File Papers, 1761-1917</p> <p>Court, Land and Probate Records</p> <p>View Image</p>	<p>PROBATE : 1916 RECORD</p> <p>LOCATION : North Adams, Berkshire, Massachusetts, United States</p> <p>CASE TYPE : will</p> <p>NOTE : page 1 of 17</p> <p>CASE NUMBER : 29383</p> <p>VOLUME : Berkshire Cases 28000-29999</p> <p>PAGE : 29383:1</p>	

[← Back to Results](#)

Berkshire County, MA: Probate File Papers, 1761-1917


[← Previous Result](#) [Next Result →](#)

Volume

Page of 29999:15

Comment or Question

[Print](#) [Print Range](#) [★ Save Record](#) [New Search](#) [Report Error](#)

Name Abraham C. OSBORNE
Probate Record 1916
Location North Adams, Berkshire,
Massachusetts, United States

Original Text
Case Number 29383
Note page 1 of 17
Case Type will
Volume Name Berkshire Cases 28000-
29999
Page 29383:1



[Saved Records](#)

Citation

[Copy Citation](#)

[← Back to Results](#)

Berkshire County, MA: Probate File Papers, 1761-1917

[← Previous Result](#) [Next Result →](#)

[Image](#)

[Transcript](#)

Volume

Berkshire Cases 28000-29999

← Page

29383:1

of 29999:15 →

[Download](#)

[Print](#)

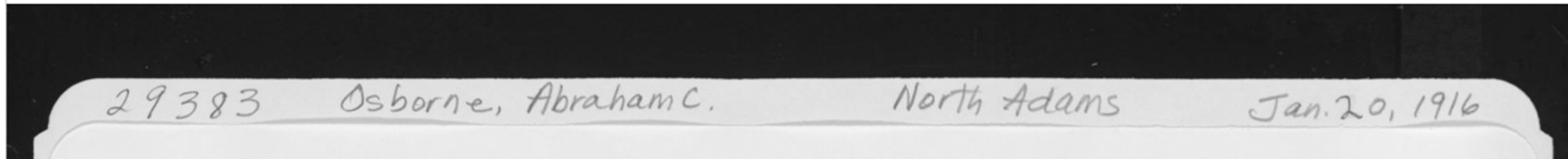
[Print Range](#)

Current View

[★ Favorite](#)

[New Search](#)

[Report Error](#)



AmericanAncestors.org

[Image](#) [Transcript](#)

Volume

[← Page](#) [of 29999:15 →](#)

[Download](#) [Print](#) [Print Range](#) Current View

[★ Favorite](#) [New Search](#) [Report Error](#)



I, Abraham C. Osborn, of the City of North Adams, in the County of Berkshire, and State of Massachusetts, being of sound mind, memory and understanding, do make my last will and testament in manner and form following; ·

First. I hereby direct and empower my executor to pay all my funeral expenses and just debts as soon as possible.

Second. To Herold Baenziger Osborn, my grandson I give my gold watch, chain and fob complete, as a keepsake.

Third. To Julia Louise Osborn, my granddaughter, I give certain unmounted topaz stones, and such articles of jewelry as her mother may select for her, as keepsakes.

Fourth. To Virginia E. Osborn, my granddaughter, I give a pair of square gold, cuff-buttons, owned and worn by her grandmother, Emma H. Osborn, as a keepsake.

Fifth. To Madeline E. Osborn, my daughter-in-law, as an expression of my appreciation of her unceasing care and provision for me, especially in my disability. I give her the dresser with drawers and mirrors, now in my bedroom, my library table, and the hall clock, now in the lower hall of the house at 344 Main St.

Search

Events

Membership

Give

Publications

E

Name

Exact Search

Soundex

SEARCH

First/Middle/[Maiden] names

Last Name

Years

From

To

Record Type

-All-

Location

Exact Location

Keywords

e.g. Boston, Massachusetts

Enter terms or words

Database Type

All databases Favorites Free With images

Category

Database

-All-

-All-

Family Members (Father/Mother/Spouse)

Any

First and Middle Names

Last Name



AmericanAncestors.org

Name Exact Search Soundex **SEARCH**

First/Middle/[Maiden] names Last Name

Years From To Record Type

Location Exact Location Keywords

- All-
- Atlases, Maps and Reference Materials
- Census, Tax and Voter Lists
- Court, Land and Probate Records**
- Genealogies, Biographies, Heraldry, and Local Histories
- Great Migration Study Project
- Immigration Records
- Journals and Periodicals
- Military Records
- Vital Records (incl. Bible, Cemetery, Church and SSDI)

Saved Searches 

Saved Records

Comment or Question

Write a comment

- Search by Category
- Atlases, Maps and Reference Materials
 - Census, Tax and Voter Lists
 - Court, Land and Probate Records
 - Genealogies, Biographies, Heraldry, and Local Histories
 - Immigration Records
 - Journals and Periodicals
 - Military Records
 - Vital Records (incl. Bible, Cemetery, Church and SSDI)
 - Great Migration Study Project



Search interface with a dropdown menu open.

Name Exact Search Soundex [SEARCH](#) [Saved Searches](#) [Saved Records](#)

First/Middle/[Maiden] names:

Years From: To:

Location Exact Location

Database Type
 All databases Favorites Free Other

Category

Dropdown Menu:

- All-
- Barnstable, MA: Probate Records, 1685-1789
- Berkshire County, MA: Probate File Papers, 1761-1917
- Bristol County, MA: Extracts from Court of General Sessions of the Peace, 1697-1801
- Bristol County, MA: Probate File Papers, 1686-1880
- Bristol County, RI: Divorces, 1819-1893
- Connecticut: Early Probate Records, 1635-1750
- Connecticut: Minutes of the Court of Assistants, 1669-1711
- Connecticut: Records of the Particular Court of the Colony of CT, 1687-1688
- Essex County, MA: Early Probate Records, 1635-1681
- Essex County, MA: Probate File Papers, 1638-1881
- Fairfield County, CT: Probate Records, 1704-1757
- Franklin County, MA: Probate File Papers, 1812-1915
- Hampshire County, MA: Probate File Papers, 1660-1889
- Hartford County, CT: Index to Hartford County Court Minutes, Vols. 3-4, 1663-1687, 1697
- Hartford, CT: General Index of Land Records of the Town of Hartford, 1639-1839
- Maine: Early Wills and Deeds, 1640-1760
- Massachusetts: Automobile Registrations, 1908-1910
- Massachusetts: Plymouth Colony Deeds, 1671-1673
- Middlesex County, MA: Abstracts of Court Records, 1643-1674
- All-

Category List:

- Category
- Reference Materials
- Other Lists
- Probate Records
- Genealogies, Heraldry, and Local
- Records
- Periodicals
- Library, Bible, Cemetery, Church and
- Study Project

Search by database name

probate

39 databases [Reset filters](#)

Results per page 20 50 100

DATABASE
<input type="radio"/> all databases
<input type="radio"/> only databases with images
<input type="radio"/> only my favorite databases
<input type="radio"/> only free databases

LOCATION
United States (37)

DATE
Pre 1700 (20)
1700 - 1750 (3)
1750 - 1800 (6)

			Connecticut: Early Probate Records, 1635-1750
			Providence, RI: Index to Probate, 1646-1899
			Franklin County, MA: Probate File Papers, 1812-1915
			Norfolk County, MA: Index to Probate records, 1793-1900
			Berkshire County, MA: Probate File Papers, 1761-1917
			Barnstable, MA: Probate Records, 1685-1789
			Norfolk County, MA: Probate File Papers, 1793-1900
			Suffolk County, MA: Probate File Papers
			Bristol County, MA: Probate File Papers, 1686-1880



Search

Events

Membership

Give

Publications

E

Search Database

★ Favorite

📁 Berkshire County, MA: Probate File Papers, 1761-1917

Exact Search Soundex

🔍 SEARCH

First Name

Abraham

Last Name

Osborne

Years

From

To

Location Exact Location

e.g. Boston, Massachusetts

Volume

-All-



Page


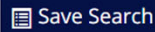
Case Number


AmericanAncestors.org


Search Results


1 - 1 of 1 records for Name: Abraham Osborne (exact), Database: Berkshire County, MA: Probate File Papers, 1761-1917

 Refine  New Search


Results per page [20](#) [50](#) [100](#)  Print  Save Search

Name	Events	Relationship
Abraham C. OSBORNE  Berkshire County, MA: Probate File Papers, 1761-1917 Court, Land and Probate Records View Image	PROBATE : 1916 RECORD LOCATION : North Adams,Berkshire,Massachusetts,United States CASE TYPE : will NOTE : page 1 of 17 CASE NUMBER : 29383 VOLUME : Berkshire Cases 28000-29999 PAGE : 29383:1	

SEARCH FILTERS 


Abraham Osborne 

SORT BY

Relevance 

Comment or Question

Write a comment



Search

Events

Membership

Give


Publications


Expert Help

Tools

Signature Projects

Centers & Initiatives


 Image

 Transcript


Volume

Berkshire Cases 28000-29999 ▾


◀ Page 29383:1 of 29999:15 ▶

 Download

 Print

 Print Range

Current View

 Favorite

New Search

Report Error

29383

Osborne, Abraham C.

North Adams

Jan. 20, 1916

Search

Events

Membership

Give

Publications


Expert Help

Tools

Signature Projects

Centers & Initiatives

 Image

 Transcript


Volume

Berkshire Cases 28000-29999 ▾


◀ Page

29383:4

of 29999:15 ▶

 Download

 Print

 Print Range

Current View

★ Favorite

New Search

Report Error

I, Abraham C. Osborn, of the City of North Adams, in the County of Berkshire, and State of Massachusetts, being of sound mind, memory and understanding, do make my last will and testament in manner and form following; ·

First. I hereby direct and empower my executor to pay all my funeral expenses and just debts as soon as possible.

Second. To Harold Baenziger Osborn, my grandson I give my gold watch, chain and fob complete, as a keepsake.

Third. To Julia Louise Osborn, my granddaughter, I give certain

AmericanAncestors.org

[Search](#)

[Events](#)

[Membership](#)

[Give](#)

[Publications](#)

[Expert Help](#)

[Tools](#)

[Signature Projects](#)

[Centers & Initiatives](#)

I, Abraham C. Osborn, of the City of North Adams, in the County of Berkshire, and State of Massachusetts, being of sound mind, memory and understanding, do make my last will and testament in manner and form following; ·

First. I hereby direct and empower my executor to pay all my funeral expenses and just debts as soon as possible.

Second. To Harold Baenziger Osborn, my grandson I give my gold watch, chain and fob complete, as a keepsake.

Third. To Julia Louise Osborn, my granddaughter, I give certain unmounted topaz stones, and such articles of jewelry as her mother

AmericanAncestors.org



Search

Events

Membership

Give

Publications

Expe

Search Database

★ Favorite

📷 New York: Abstracts of Wills, Admins. and Guardianships, 1787-1835

Exact Search Soundex

🔍 SEARCH

First Name

Elizabeth

Last Name

Salisbury

Years

From

To

Record Type

-All-

Location Exact Location

e.g. Boston, Massachusetts

Volume

-All-

Page

1 - 50 of 7736 records for Name: Elizabeth Salisbury, Database: New York: Abstracts of Wills, Admins. and Guardianships, 1787-1835

Refine New Search Results per page 20 50 100 Print Save Search

SEARCH FILTERS

Elizabeth Salisbury

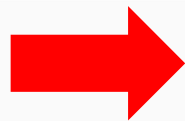
SORT BY

Relevance

Comment or Question

Write a comment


Name	Events	Relationship
Elizabeth SALISBURY New York: Abstracts of Wills, Admins. and Guardianships, 1787-1835 Court, Land and Probate Records View Image	1787 - 1835 LOCATION : Catskill, Greene, New York, United States VOLUME : Greene PAGE : 536	
Elizabeth SALISBURY New York: Abstracts of Wills, Admins. and Guardianships, 1787-1835 Court, Land and Probate Records View Image	1809 LOCATION : Catskill, Greene, New York, United States VOLUME : Greene PAGE : 569	
Elizabeth SALISBURY New York: Abstracts of Wills, Admins. and Guardianships, 1787-1835 Court, Land and Probate Records View Image	1809 LOCATION : Catskill, Greene, New York, United States VOLUME : Greene PAGE : 570	




◀ Back to Results

New York: Abstracts of Wills, Admins. and Guardianships, 1787-1835

◀ Previous Result Next Result ▶

 Image

 Transcript

Volume

Greene


◀ Page

570


of 920 ▶

 Download

 Print

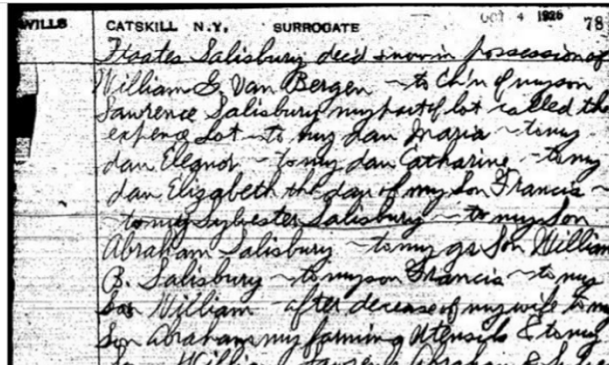
 Print Range

Current View

 Favorite

New Search

Report Error



Search

Events

Membership

Give

Publications

Expert Help

Tools

Signature Projects

Centers & Initiatives

Download

Print

Print Range

Current View

Favorite

New Search

Report Error



WILLS CATSKILL N.Y. SURROGATE Oct 4 1926 78
Hester Salisbury deed in possession of
William S. Van Bergen - to Ch'm of my son
Lawrence Salisbury my part of lot called the
expens lot - to my son Jacob - to my
son Eleanor - to my son Catharine - to my
son Elizabeth the day of my son Francis -
to my son Sylvester Salisbury - to my son
Abraham Salisbury - to my son William
B. Salisbury - to my son Francis - to my
son William - after decease of my wife to my
son Abraham my farming utensils & to my
son William Lawrence Abraham & S. G.

Finding Probate Record Books on FamilySearch

 We're testing new features that

ly moments and connect with others.

- Records
- Images
- Family Tree
- Genealogies
- Catalog
- Books
- Research Wiki




2022: Meet
aker MOLLY
musician,
rian!

[Learn More!](#)

Previous • Next

New Volunteer Opportunity
Help fix place-names. Even a few minutes will make a difference.

[Try It](#)

Recommended Tasks 

All Records

FamilySearch Catalog

Search the catalog of genealogical materials (including books, online materials, microfilm, microfiche, and publications) made available by FamilySearch online and in libraries and centers worldwide.

[Learn more about the catalog and how to access materials.](#)

Search by:

Place | [Surnames](#) | [Titles](#) | [Author](#) | [Subjects](#) | [Keywords](#)

Place

Prince Edward

United States, Virginia, Prince Edward

Prince George

[United States, Virginia, Prince George](#)

[United States, Virginia, Prince George, Prince George](#)

Prince George's

[United States, Maryland, Prince George's](#)

Prince of Wales-Hyder

[United States, Alaska, Prince of Wales-Hyder](#)

Prince William

37 Results



Refine your search ▼

Search by:

Place ✕

Surnames
Titles
Author
Subjects
Keywords

Search for:

[Call Number](#)
[Film/Fiche Number](#)

Availability

Any
 Online
 Family History Center

[Update](#) [Reset](#)

[PRINT](#) [Catalog Print List \(0\)](#)

Notes ▼

Formed in 1753 from Amelia County.

Part of [United States, Virginia](#)

[Places within United States, Virginia, Prince Edward](#) ▶

[Print List](#)

- ▶ [United States, Virginia, Prince Edward - Census - 1810](#) (1)
- ▶ [United States, Virginia, Prince Edward - Census - 1850](#) (1)
- ▶ [United States, Virginia, Prince Edward - Church history](#) (2)
- ▶ [United States, Virginia, Prince Edward - Church records](#) (7)
- ▶ [United States, Virginia, Prince Edward - Church records - Indexes](#) (2)
- ▶ [United States, Virginia, Prince Edward - Court records](#) (10)
- ▶ [United States, Virginia, Prince Edward - Genealogy](#) (1)
- ▶ [United States, Virginia, Prince Edward - Guardianship](#) (3)
- ▶ [United States, Virginia, Prince Edward - History](#) (5)
- ▶ [United States, Virginia, Prince Edward - History - Civil War, 1861-1865](#) (1)
- ▶ [United States, Virginia, Prince Edward - Land and property](#) (8)
- ▶ [United States, Virginia, Prince Edward - Land and property - Indexes](#) (1)
- ▶ [United States, Virginia, Prince Edward - Land and property - Maps](#) (1)
- ▶ [United States, Virginia, Prince Edward - Maps](#) (2)
- ▶ [United States, Virginia, Prince Edward - Medical records](#) (1)
- ▶ [United States, Virginia, Prince Edward - Military history - Civil War, 1861-1865](#) (1)
- ▶ [United States, Virginia, Prince Edward - Military records - Civil War, 1861-1865](#) (3)
- ▶ [United States, Virginia, Prince Edward - Naturalization and citizenship](#) (1)
- ▶ [United States, Virginia, Prince Edward - Obituaries](#) (1)
- ▶ [United States, Virginia, Prince Edward - Occupations](#) (1)
- ▶ [United States, Virginia, Prince Edward - Officials and employees](#) (1)
- ▶ [United States, Virginia, Prince Edward - Probate records](#) (6)
- ▶ [United States, Virginia, Prince Edward - Public records](#) (1)
- ▶ [United States, Virginia, Prince Edward - Taxation](#) (2)
- ▶ [United States, Virginia, Prince Edward - Vital records](#) (8)
- ▶ [United States, Virginia, Prince Edward - Voting registers](#) (1)



- ▶ United States, Virginia, Prince Edward - Occupations (1)
- ▶ United States, Virginia, Prince Edward - Officials and employees (1)
- ▼ **United States, Virginia, Prince Edward - Probate records (6)**

Prince Edward County, Virginia wills	Add
Prince Edward County, Virginia, abstracts of wills : books nos. 1-7, 1754-1837 : each book is followed by a separate index	Add
Record and will books, 1791-1899	Add
Author: Virginia. District Court (Prince Edward County District); Virginia. Superior Court of Law (Prince Edward County); Virginia. Circuit Superior Court of Law and Chancery (Prince Edward County); Virginia. Circuit Court (Prince Edward County)	
Record of fiduciaries, 1850-1983	Add
Author: Virginia. County Court (Prince Edward County); Virginia. Circuit Court (Prince Edward County); Prince Edward County (Virginia). Clerk of Circuit Court	
Will books, 1754-1869 ; general indexes to wills, 1754-1915, 1937, 1974-1984	Add
Author: Virginia. County Court (Prince Edward County)	
Will of Andrew Porter of Prince Edward Co., VA.	Add
Author: Porter, Andrew, Col., 1734-1821; Porter, Ralph L.	



- ▶ United States, Virginia, Prince Edward - Public records (1)
- ▶ United States, Virginia, Prince Edward - Taxation (2)
- ▶ United States, Virginia, Prince Edward - Vital records (8)
- ▶ United States, Virginia, Prince Edward - Voting registers (1)

Will books, 1754-1869 ; general indexes to wills, 1754-1915, 1937, 1974-1984

[Add to Print List](#)

Authors:	Virginia. County Court (Prince Edward County) (Main Author)
Format:	Manuscript/Manuscript on Film
Language:	English
Publication:	Salt Lake City, Utah : Filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah, 1949 Richmond, Virginia : Filmed by the Virginia State Library, 1984
Physical:	on 8 microfilm reels ; 35 mm.

Notes

Microfilm of original records at the Prince Edward County Courthouse in Farmville, Virginia.












Includes general indexes. Vols. 2-12 are also individually indexed. Index for v. 7 is found at the end of the book. The other filming of v. 1 includes an index.

Contains wills, inventories, appraisements, accounts, and other probate documents.

Bonds in will book, v. 1, were for sheriffs, surveyors, licenses for ordinaries, executors, administrators, marriages, and other officials or functions.

Some pages are damaged. Ink has faded in places.

[View this catalog record in WorldCat for other possible copy locations](#) 

Note	Location	Collection/Shelf	Film	DGS	Format
 General index to wills, surnames A-Z, 1754-1915 (indexes will books, v. 1-16; p. 251 has a few entries from v. 19, 1937).	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	33216 Item 1	7645993	
General index to wills and fiduciary accounts, 1844-1915 (p. 1-400, general index of reports) (indexes will books, v. 9-16) -- General index to wills and fiduciary accounts, 1844-1915 (p. 401-596, general index of inventories, appraisements and accounts of sales) (indexes will books, v. 9-16).	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	2070191 Items 3 - 4	7644209	
General index to devisees and heirs, surnames H-L, 1974-1984 (indexes v. 27-33) -- General index to devisees and heirs, surnames M-R, 1974-1984 (indexes v. 27-33) -- General index to devisees and heirs, surnames S-Z, 1974-1984 (indexes v. 27-33).	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	2070189 Items 1 - 3	7644207	
Will book, v. 1, 1754- 1785 (p. 1-360) and bonds 1754-1783 (1784) (p. 361-442).	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	33216 Item 2	7645993	
Another filming of will book, v. 1, 1754-1785, and bonds, 1754-1784.	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	2070189 Items 5 - 6	7644207	
Will book, v. 2, 1785-1795 -- Will book, v. 3, 1795-1807.	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	33217	7645994	
Will book, v. 4, 1807-1815 -- Will book, v. 5, 1815-1822 -- Will book, v. 6, 1822-1828.	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	33218	7645995	
Will book, v. 7, 1828-1837 -- Will book, v. 8, 1837-1844 -- Will book, v. 9, 1844-1853.	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	33219	7645996	
Will book, v. 10, 1853-1859 -- Will book, v. 11, 1859-1864 -- Will book, v. 12, 1864-1869.	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Overflow	33220	7645997	
Another filming of will book, v. 12, 1864-1869.	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	2070190 Item 1	7644208	

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	H					
A TO Z	As-AI	1	Bl-Bo	23	Ca-CI	35	Da-DI	56	Fa-FI	74	Ga-GI	86	Harris	101
	Adams	1	Blanton	25	Caldwell	37	Daniel	58	Farley	76	Garden	87	Harrison	102
	Aiken	2	Bondurant	25	Calhoon	38	Davidson	59	Fears	77	Gaulding	88	Haakins	103
	Aken	2	Booker	26	Calhoun	38	Davis	60	Flemming	78	Geers	88	Hawkins	104
	Allen	2			Cardwell	40	Day	62	Fleshman	78	Gibson	88	He-HI	105
	Am-Az	5	Br-By	28	Carter	41	Dejarnett	62	Flippin	78	Gillespie	89	Hill	106
	Anderson	7			Cary	43	Dickerson	63	Flournoy	79	Gilliam	89	Hinds	107
	Armes	9	Bradshaw	30	Cason	44	Dickinson	63			Gills	91	Hines	107
	Arnold	10	Brightwell	31	Chambers	44	Dillon	64			Glenn	91	Hix	108
	Atwood	10	Brisentine	32	Childress	45	Do-Dy	65			Go-Gy	92	Ho-Hy	109
			Brown	32	CHURCHES	45	Doswell	67			Goode	94	Holland	110
			Bruce	33	Cl-Co	46	Dupuy	68	Fo-Fy	80	Green	95	Holmes	111
			Bryan	33	Clark(e)	49			Ford	81	Guill	95	Homes	111
			Bryant	33	Cobb(s)	51	Ea-Ey	69	Foster	81			Holt	111
			Bugg	34	Cocks	51	Edmunds	70	Fowlkes	83	Ha	96	Hubbard	112
			Burk(e)(s)	34	Cox	51	Elam	70	Folks	83	Hamblen	98	Hudson	113
					Cole(s)	52	Ellington	71	Fulton	85	Hamlin	98	Hughes	114
					Cr-Cy	53	Ellett	72	Fuqua	85	Hambleton	99	Hunt	115
					Crute	54	Elliott	72			Hamilton	99	Hurd	115
					Cunningham	55	Ewing	73			Hamlett	100	Hurt	116
											Harper	100		

LOOK FOR THE FAMILY NAME

The above table is an alphabetical arrangement of all prominent surnames covered by this index. Names not shown in heading will be found under the various subdivisions of the alphabet according to the first two letters of the surname. The figures indicate the page of this index on which the name is written.

DATE RECORDED			Real or Personal	DEVISEE	WHERE RECORDED	
Month	Day	Year			Book	Page
May		1780	Real & Pers.	Gillespie David	1	209
May		1780	Pers.	Gellison	1	209
			Real & Pers.	Drense	1	29
			Do	George	1	29
May		1780	Do	Dame	1	209
Jan	17	1771	Do	Dame	2	105
May		1780	Pers.	Dree	1	209



[eI

Duplicate your tab in your Internet browser. This will allow you to keep the index open in one tab while you're opening the volume for the probate in another.

Film/Digital Notes

Note	Location	Collection/Shelf	Film	DGS	Format
General index to wills, surnames A-Z, 1754-1915 (indexes will books, v. 1-16; p. 251 has a few entries from v. 19, 1937).	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	33216 Item 1	7645993	
General index to wills and fiduciary accounts, 1844-1915 (p. 1-400, general index of reports) (indexes will books, v. 9-16) -- General index to wills and fiduciary accounts, 1844-1915 (p. 401-596, general index of inventories, appraisements and accounts of sales) (indexes will books, v. 9-16).	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	2070191 Items 3 - 4	7644209	
General index to devisees and heirs, surnames H-L, 1974-1984 (indexes v. 27-33) -- General index to devisees and heirs, surnames M-R, 1974-1984 (indexes v. 27-33) -- General index to devisees and heirs, surnames S-Z, 1974-1984 (indexes v. 27-33).	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	2070189 Items 1 - 3	7644207	
Will book, v. 1, 1754- 1785 (p. 1-360) and bonds 1754-1783 (1784) (p. 361-442).	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	33216 Item 2		
Another filming of will book, v. 1, 1754-1785, and bonds, 1754-1784.	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	2070189 Items 5 - 6	7644207	
Will book, v. 2, 1785-1795 -- Will book, v. 3, 1795-1807.	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	33217	7645994	
Will book, v. 4, 1807-1815 -- Will book, v. 5, 1815-1822 -- Will book, v. 6, 1822-1828.	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	33218	7645995	
Will book, v. 7, 1828-1837 -- Will book, v. 8, 1837-1844 -- Will book, v. 9, 1844-1853.	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	33219	7645996	
Will book, v. 10, 1853-1859 -- Will book, v. 11, 1859-1864 -- Will book, v. 12, 1864-1869.	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Overflow	33220	7645997	

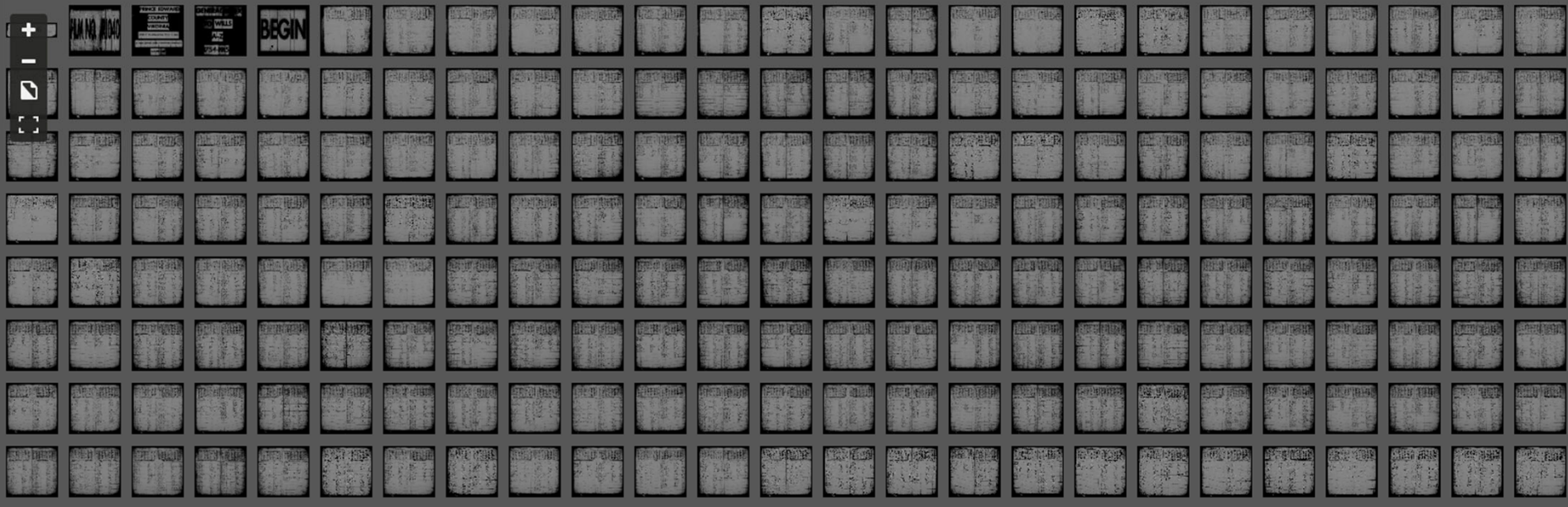
Film # 007645993

Source Box

Attach to Family Tree

Image 236 of 463

Print Download Tools



Film # 007645993

Source Box

Attach to Family Tree

Image 236 of 463

Print Download Tools

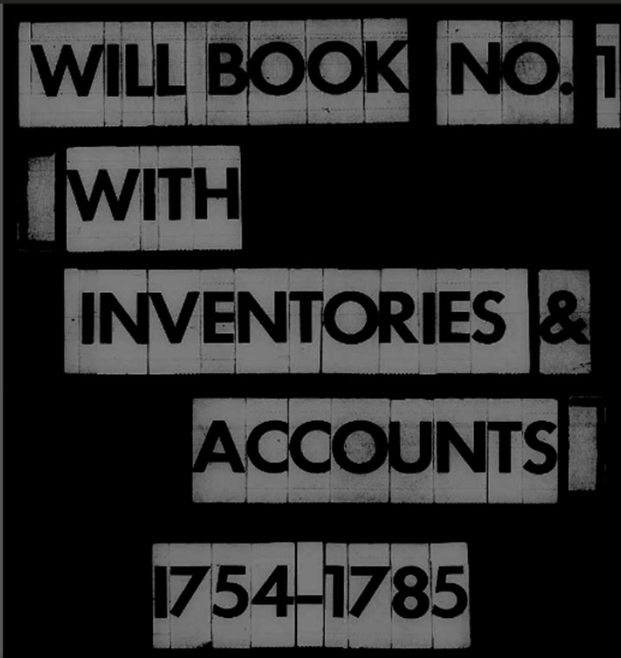


Image Index Information

No indexes are available.

+
 -
 [Grid Icon]
 [Crop Icon]

out made
 being fish
 Chalcedon

L	8		
	2	5	
	9		
		11	
	2	10	
	6	8	9
De	3		
	1	5	

Image Index Information

29

In the Name of God Amen Robert Colles of the County of Essex in the Kingdom of Great Britain being sick of Body and of Mind and Memory thanks be given to Almighty God who calling to mind the mortality of my Body and knowing that this is appointed for all Men to die I make and Ordain this my last Will and Testament that is to say Principally and first I give and recommend my soul into the hands of God that I have and may enjoy according to his Truth to be duly served at the direction of my Executors nothing doubting but that the General Christian will I shall receive there as a just by the mighty Power of God and such things more as I shall relate when I shall be called by God to take my Journey to the Kingdom of Glory being first I have and

No indexes are available

Finding Probate File Papers on FamilySearch



FamilySearch Catalog

Search the catalog of genealogical materials (including books, online materials, microfilm, microfiche, and publications) made available by FamilySearch online and in libraries and centers worldwide.

[Learn more about the catalog and how to access materials.](#)

Search by:

Place | [Surnames](#) | [Titles](#) | [Author](#) | [Subjects](#) | [Keywords](#)

Place

United States, New Hampshir|

New Hampshire

United States, New Hampshire

1 Results

- Any
- Online
- Family History Center

Search

Reset

▼ **United States, New Hampshire - Probate records (11)**

Miscellaneous notes and abstracts of wills from New England states Add

New Hampshire naturalization and probate records : COLLECTION RECORD, 1643-1948 Add

[New Hampshire provincial and state papers] Add

[New Hampshire provincial and state papers] Add

[New Hampshire provincial and state papers] Add

 New Hampshire, county probate estate files : COLLECTION RECORD, 1769-1936 Add

New Hampshire, county probate records : COLLECTION RECORD, 1660-1973 Add

Probate records of the province of New Hampshire Add

Author: Batchellor, Albert Stillman, 1850-1913; Hammond, Otis G. (Otis Grant), 1869-1944

Probate records of the province of New Hampshire Add

Author: Batchellor, Albert Stillman, 1850-1913; Metcalf, Henry Harrison, 1841-1932; Hammond, Otis G. (Otis Grant), 1869-1944

Probate records of the province of New Hampshire, 1635-1771 Add

Author: Batchellor, Albert Stillman, 1850-1913; Hammond, Otis G. (Otis Grant), 1869-1944; Stearns, Ezra S. (Ezra Scollay), 1838-1915

Province [New Hampshire] deeds and probate records from 1623-1772 Add

Author: New Hampshire (Colony)

[◀ BACK TO SEARCH RESULTS](#)

 [PRINT](#)  [Catalog Print](#)

New Hampshire, county probate estate files : COLLECTION RECORD, 1769-1936

[Add to F](#)

Format: Manuscript/Manuscript on Digital Images

Language: English

Publication: Salt Lake City, Utah : Digitized by FamilySearch International, 2012

Microfilm Records in this Collection: [Estate papers, old series, 1771-1869 / New Hampshire. Probate Court \(Rockingham County\)](#)
[Probate estate files, 1769-1885 / New Hampshire. Probate Court \(Cheshire County\)](#)
[Probate packets, 1885-1931; probate index, 1885-1992 / New Hampshire. Probate Court \(Coos County\)](#)
[Probate papers, 1840-1936; index to probate papers, 1840-1990 / New Hampshire. Probate Court \(Carroll County\)](#)

Notes

New Hampshire, County Probate Estate Files are available online, [click here.](#)



County probate estate files for Carroll, Cheshire, Coos, and Rockingham counties. This collection is being published as images become available.



New Hampshire, County Probate Estate Files, 1769-1936

Description

County probate estate files for Carroll, Cheshire, Coos, and Rockingham counties. This collection is being published as images become available.

[How to Use this Collection »](#)

View Images in this Collection

[Browse through 877,366 images](#)

Citing this Collection

"New Hampshire, County Probate Estate Files, 1769-1936." Images. *FamilySearch*. <http://FamilySearch.org> : 14 June 2016. County courthouses, offices of register of probate, and historical societies, New Hampshire.





Family Tree Search Memories Indexing Activities

Records Images Family Tree Genealogies Catalog Books Wiki

New Hampshire, County Pro...e Estate Files, 1769-1936

County

[Carroll](#)

[Cheshire](#)

[Coos](#)

[Rockingham](#)



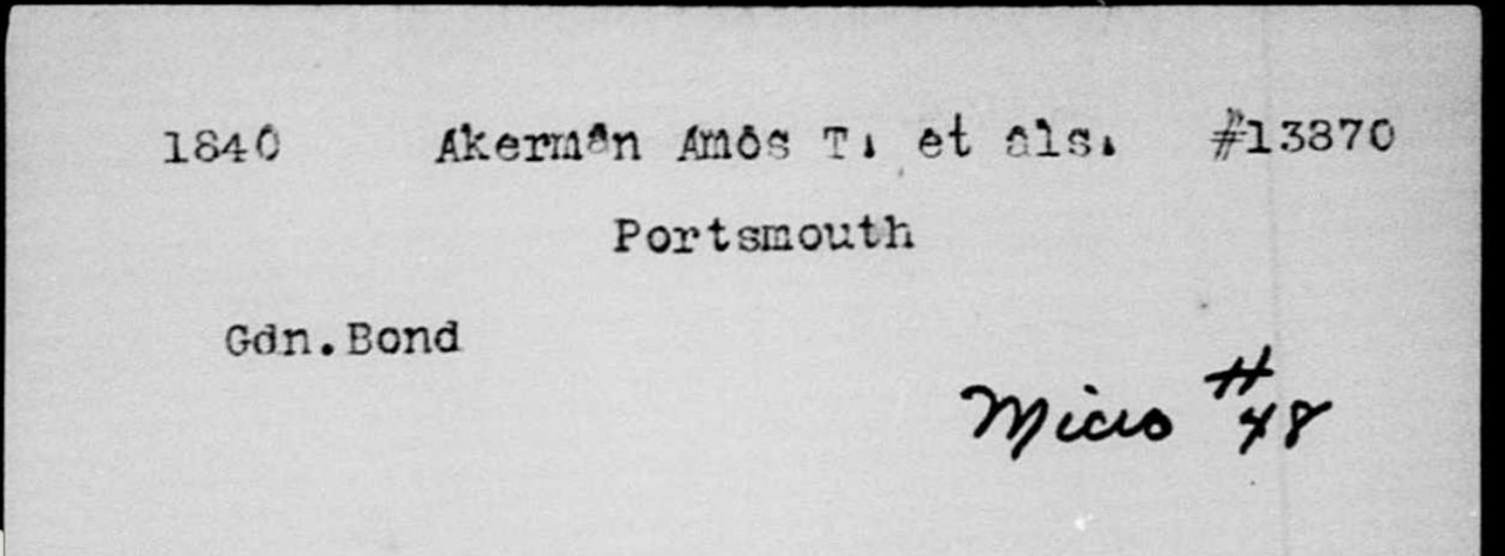
FamilySearch.org



Index of Case File and Year Range

Case index Abbott, A.-Dollof, J. 1771-1869	Case no 9494-9576 1817	Case no 13740-13800 1839
Case index Dollof, J.-Lolly S. 1771-1869	Case no 9577-9685 1817-1818	Case no 13801-13871 1839-1840
Case index Lolly, S.-Stevens, P. 1771-1869	Case no 9686-9748 1818	Case no 13872-13937 1840
Case index Stevens, P.-Young, W. 1771-1869	Case no 9749-9827 1818	Case no 13937-14009 1840
Case no 3836-3988 1771-1773	Case no 9828-9895 1818-1819	Case no 14009-14074 1840-1841
Case no 3989-4128 1773-1774	Case no 9896-9973 1819	Case no 14075-14144 1841
Case no 4129-4269 1774-1776	Case no 9974-10056 1819-1920	Case no 14145-14200 1841
Case no 4270-4402 1776-1777	Case no 10057-10141 1820	Case no 14201-14254 1841-1842
Case no 4402-4565 1777-1779	Case no 10142-10223 1820-1821	Case no 14255-14314 1842
Case no 4566-4701 1779-1781	Case no 10224-10301 1821	Case no 14315-14379 1842
Case no 4702-4842 1781-1782	Case no 10302-10390 1821-1822	Case no 14380-14440 1842
Case no 4843-4987 1782-1784	Case no 10391-10464 1822	Case no 14441-14499 1842-1843
Case no 4988-5074 1784-1785	Case no 10465-10534 1822	Case no 14500-14558 1843
Case no 5075-5178 1785-1786	Case no 10535-10624 1822-1823	Case no 14558-14614 1843
Case no 5178-5289 1786-1787	Case no 10625-10707 1823	Case no 14614-14668 1843-1844
Case no 5290-5395 1787-1788	Case no 10708-10790 1823-1824	Case no 14668-14724 1844
Case no 5396-5511 1788-1790	Case no 10790-10859 1824	Case no 14725-14773 1884
Case no 5512-5600 1790	Case no 10860-10913 1824-1825	Case no 14774-14835 1844





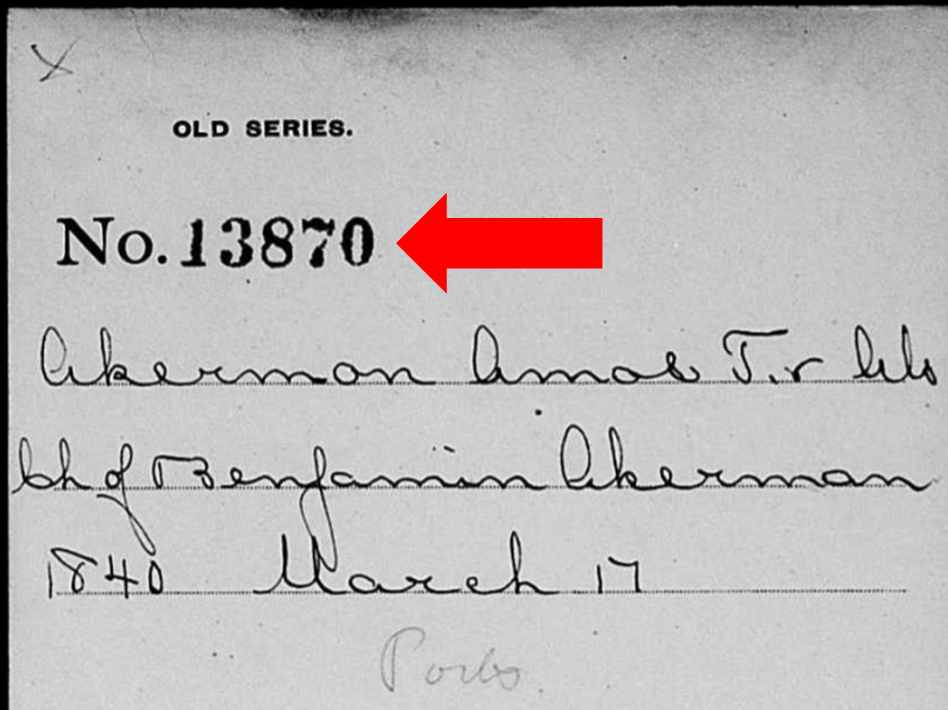
New Hampshire, County Pro...e Estate Files, 1769-1936 ▼ Rockingham >

Index of Case File and Year Range

Case index Abbott, A.-Dollof, J. 1771-1869	Case no 9494-9576 1817	Case no 13740-13800 1839
Case index Dollof, J.-Lolly S. 1771-1869	Case no 9577-9685 1817-1818	Case no 13801-13871 1839-1840
Case index Lolly, S.-Stevens, P. 1771-1869	Case no 9686-9748 1818	Case no 13872-13937 1840
Case index Stevens, P.-Young, W. 1771-1869	Case no 9749-9827 1818	Case no 13937-14009 1840
Case no 3836-3988 1771-1773	Case no 9828-9895 1818-1819	Case no 14009-14074 1840-1841
Case no 3989-4128 1773-1774	Case no 9896-9973 1819	Case no 14075-14144 1841
Case no 4129-4269 1774-1776	Case no 9974-10056 1819-1920	Case no 14145-14200 1841
Case no 4270-4402 1776-1777	Case no 10057-10141 1820	Case no 14201-14254 1841-1842
Case no 4402-4565 1777-1779	Case no 10142-10223 1820-1821	Case no 14255-14314 1842
Case no 4566-4701 1779-1781	Case no 10224-10301 1821	Case no 14315-14379 1842
Case no 4702-4842 1781-1782	Case no 10302-10390 1821-1822	Case no 14380-14440 1842
Case no 4843-4987 1782-1784	Case no 10391-10464 1822	Case no 14441-14499 1842-1843
Case no 4988-5074 1784-1785	Case no 10465-10534 1822	Case no 14500-14558 1843
Case no 5075-5178 1785-1786	Case no 10535-10624 1822-1823	Case no 14558-14614 1843
Case no 5178-5289 1786-1787	Case no 10625-10707 1823	Case no 14614-14668 1843-1844
Case no 5290-5395 1787-1788	Case no 10708-10790 1823-1824	Case no 14668-14724 1844
Case no 5396-5511 1788-1790	Case no 10790-10859 1824	Case no 14725-14773 1884
Case no 5512-5600 1790	Case no 10860-10913 1824-1825	Case no 14774-14835 1844







Rockingham Co. To the Judge of Probate for the
County of Rockingham in the State of New Hampshire.

Respectfully Sheweth Amos Tappan Sherman of
Portsmouth in said County, that he is a son of
Benjamin Sherman of Portsmouth in said County,
and a minor upwards of fourteen years of age, that
he has property in said Portsmouth bequeathed to him
by Mary Meloon late of said Portsmouth deceased,
and that he does hereby make choice of Benjamin A-
Sherman of Portsmouth in said County to be his guar-
dian —

Wherefore he prays that Letters of Guardianship
may issue to the said Benjamin Sherman accordingly.

Dated the twentieth day of March — A. D. 1840.

Amos T. Sherman

Witness, William G. Perry.

Review

1. Don't limit yourself to just looking for a will. Probate records are an invaluable record set for proving relationships within a family.
2. Estate papers should be sought out as they include the original records from the probate process.
3. Probate records can be used to rebuild the story of an ancestor and lead you to additional records.

A large audience is seated in a conference room, facing a presentation screen. The room has a dark wood-paneled wall and a patterned acoustic panel. The audience is diverse in age and appearance. The text "QUESTIONS?" is overlaid in large white letters on the center of the image.

QUESTIONS?

A large audience is seated in a conference room, viewed from behind. The room has a dark wood-paneled wall at the front with a presentation screen. The audience is diverse in age and appearance. The text "THANK YOU!" is overlaid in large white letters, and the URL "AmericanAncestors.org/Education" is overlaid in white text below it.

THANK YOU!

AmericanAncestors.org/Education



NEW ENGLAND HISTORIC
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

AmericanAncestors.org

Copyright © 2023