

A Guide to the Rockbridge County (Va.) Will of Hobson Johns, 1863

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1863

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Descriptive Summary

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Rockbridge County (Va.) Circuit Court

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The Library of Virginia

Administrative Information

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Historical Information

Rockbridge County was named for Natural Bridge, an exceptional rock formation located in the county. The county was formed from Augusta and Botetourt counties in 1778, and another part of Botetourt was added later.

Born in Virginia around 1802, Hobson Johns was a farmer in Rockbridge County, Va.

Scope and Content

Rockbridge County (Va.) Will of Hobson Johns was probated on 1 June 1863. In his will, Johns leaves his property in Danville, Va., to his wife's niece Mary Louisa Yancy. To his niece Emma Clark Burroughs, Johns left his female slave Lydia on the condition that she pay Lydia six dollars at the commencement of every year as a reward for her attention to his wife during her last illness. To his nephew Hobson Clark, Johns left a tract of land located in Botetourt County and the following slaves: Daniel and his wife Lucy, Sam and his wife Parthenia, and Nelly. The balance of the estate was divided between Johns's nieces -- Nancy Haden, Mary B. Pannill, Martha Clark, and Susan Clark. Johns also left the provision that if any slaves need be sold that the slaves would have the right to select their new master.

Index Terms

Corporate Names:

Rockbridge County (Va.) Circuit Court.

Subjects:

African Americans--Virginia--Rockbridge County.

Estates (Law)--Virginia--Rockbridge County.

Land subdivision--Virginia--Rockbridge County.

Slaveholders--Virginia--Rockbridge County.

Slaves--Virginia--Rockbridge County.

Geographical Names:

Rockbridge County (Va.)--History--19th century.

Genre and Form Terms:

Local government records--Virginia--Rockbridge County.

Wills--Virginia--Rockbridge County.

