

RODEN.010 FILES ON THE ESTATE OF JOHN RODEN SR., DECEASED
OF CHESTER CO., S.C. BY MRS. CHRISTOPHER.

FILE 59, PACKAGE 912 ESTATE OF JOHN RODEN - 1821

John Roden left a will which names sons:

John Roden Jr., land whereon he now lives and 2 Negroes, plus
an equal share of unbequeathed property.

Greenberry Roden, "in case he be living," 1 slave and an
equal share in rest of property. If Greenberry is
dead, the slave to go to daughter Susannah.

Thomas Roden, land whereon he now lives plus \$ 50.00.

Issac Roden, the place "whereon I now live," (2 tracts) on
east side of Rocky Branch plus 2 slaves, \$ 300.00
and a feather bed and furniture.

Francis Wilks, (relationship not given but is son-in law)
received \$ 25.00.

Abraham Bannister and Sally Bannister, (relationship not
stated but believed to be son in law. Wife Sally
was probably a daughter).. \$ 50.00 (\$25.00 each).

Anne, daughter, 1 Negro girl and an equal share in balance of
property.

Appointed his sons Thomas and John Roden as his executors.
Will was dated 1 May 1820, proved 10 October 1821 by James F.
Sealy, one of the witnesses, before E. Lyles, Ordinary. The
other wits: were Samuel Sealy Jr., & Ferdinand Sealy. A case
filed in Ordinary's Court dated 14 January 1822 to determine
whether or not the will should be admitted for probate-James
Gilchrist etal vs. John & Thomas Roden, Execs. etal.

Witness in the case were Samuel Sealy Jr., James Sealy, and
Ferdinand Sealy, who testified that Roden could neither read
nor write and that Ferdinand Hopkins had written the will for
him and read it (back) to Roden. Samuel Sealy Sr., said the
will was signed and witnessed in his house on 1 May 1820.
Roden had lived within 2 miles of the Sealys for upwards of
50 years. (Therefore, had been living there since before
1770). Hazel Hardwick, Esq. testified that Roden told him by
his bedside on Friday before he died on Sunday, that he
wanted the will changed. Hardwick went back the next day to
write another will for him, but Roden was in a stupor.

The will was found in the hands of a Negro woman. Anne Roden,
daughter of John, said her father had a will but she wished
he would destroy it. She had put the will in the hands of the

Negro woman. Hazel Hardwick also testified that Roden was a careful man and always kept his papers locked up in a chest. Blake Carter, Abraham Mayfield, Amy Smith and Polly McKevin all testified that said Roden told them that he wanted the will changed. The court proceedings brought out that Joshua Roden was also a son.

THE WILL WAS DECLARED VALID, BUT THE COURT ORDERED EQUAL DISTRIBUTION OF CASH AND NOTES AND ALL OTHER PROPERTY NOT WILLED, TO ALL THE HEIRS, EXCEPT THOSE BARRED BY THE WILL.

Hazel Hardwick, Jesse Simpson, and Gustavus Waters were appointed as appraisers on 4 December 1821. The Inventory shows that John Roden had a big estate-50 hogs, 6 cows, and 6 yearlings, 8 horses, gig and harness, wagons, grain, cotton, farm equipment, shot-gun, pistol, bee hives, saddles, 60 yards of homespun cloth, clothes, furniture, etc...and 13 slaves. Inventory dated 12 December 1821.

Owing the estate was William Hughes (who was a Baptist minister and lived in the same neighborhood), Hazel Hardwick (who owed \$ 1000.00) and John P. Roden. John had \$ 1379.00 cash on hand when he died.

The return filed in 1825 shows that Joshua Roden, James Roden, Bannister (no first name given), Betsey Roden and MRS. Wilkes received advances from the estate. James Gilchrist is also shown as receiving a share. Estate was still in administration in 1830-no final settlement shown nor found.

End of Roden.10 data